

NNNVV 230519Z JUL 79
 RUHQHR
 RUSBLK #5147 1860315
 Y CCCCC ZZH
 R 230807Z JUL 79
 AMEMBASSY KABUL
 RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4596
 FO RUSBLK/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 7979
 SBAC/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 7020
 EMHQ/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1718
 MJPG/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 2624
 QTHP/AMEMBASSY TEHRAN 2295
 DTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1638
 JFNPS/AMEMBASSY PARIS 3134
 UGHR/AMEMBASSY JEDDA 3326
 UHQHQA/CINCPAC
 USNAAA/CINCEUR

*Ref
 Change
 ECR
 RF
 Chron*

CONFIDENTIAL: A L KABUL 5147

E.O. 12265: GDS 7/5/85 (PLATIN, BRUCE A.) OR-M
 TAGS: PEPR, AF, US
 SUBJ: CLOUD AFGHAN REGIME MAKES DISPLAY OF GOOD WILL ON
 AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

1. (C) AFGHAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION AT OUR JULY 4 RECEPTION
 WAS HIGH-RANKING, COMPARED TO THAT SEEN AT THE RECENT NATIONAL
 DAY RECEPTIONS OF OTHER FREE-WORLD EMBASSIES AT KABUL. ATTENDING
 OUR RECEPTION WERE: PROFESSOR MAHMUD SOOMA, MINISTER OF HIGHER
 EDUCATION AND MEMBER OF THE POLITBURO OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMO-
 CRATIC PARTY OF AFGHANISTAN (PDPA); DR. ABDUL RASHID JALILI,
 MINISTER OF EDUCATION--AND ANOTHER IMPORTANT KHALQI; AND
 ENGINEER MOHAMMED ISMAIL DANESH, MINISTER OF MINES AND INDUS-
 TRIES--WHO IS NEAR THE BOTTOM OF THE CABINET TOTEM POLE. IN
 COMPARISON, THE HIGHEST RANKING KHALQI TO ATTEND THIS YEAR'S
 BRITISH QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY RECEPTION WAS DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER
 MUST. (COMMENT: THE KHALQIS ARE MAD AT BBC.) COMPARED TO
 LAST YEAR, HOWEVER, WE HAVE COME DOWN A FEW PEGS. FOREIGN
 MINISTER HAFIZULLAH AMIN ATTENDED OUR RECEPTION THEN.

1 (C) ON JULY 4, GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED "KABUL TIMES" HAD A FRONT-PAGE PHOTOGRAPH OF PRESIDENT CARTER AND REPORTED THAT PRESIDENT TARAKI HAD SENT HIM A CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAM. THIS IS A USUAL AFGHAN PRACTICE FOR ALL NATIONAL DAYS OF COUNTRIES MAINTAINING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH KABUL.

1 (C) THE SAME NEWSPAPER CARRIED A FRIENDLY EDITORIAL ABOUT THE UNITED STATES--ALSO A CUSTOMARY PRACTICE ON NATIONAL DAYS. THE TONE WAS UPLIFTING, NOTING THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE SECURED THEIR INDEPENDENCE "AS A RESULT OF HARD STRUGGLES AND CAMPAIGNS." THE "KABUL TIMES" CITED AMERICA'S "PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS" WHICH "ARE TOO OBVIOUS TO THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD." THE PAPER NOTED THAT: "THE PEOPLES OF AFGHANISTAN AND AMERICA HAVE AT LEAST ONE IMPORTANT THING IN COMMON, AND THAT IS THEIR INTEREST AND STRUGGLES AGAINST COLONIALISM AT THE START OF THE DISMEMBERMENT OF THE COLONIALISTS; BOTH THE DRA AND THE USA HAVE REJECTED COLONIALISM FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THEIR (RESPECTIVE) REGIONS AND CONTINENTS."

1 (C) NOTING THAT AFGHANISTAN AND THE U.S. HAVE "HAD, FOR MANY YEARS NOW, NORMAL RELATIONS," THE "KABUL TIMES" ALSO NOTED THE VALUE OF THEIR CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION, INCLUDING THE U.S.-STUDY EXPERIENCES OF "A LARGE NUMBER OF AFGHANS." THE PAPER OBSERVED THAT THE KHALDI REGIME IS KEEPING THESE BILATERAL RELATIONS "NORMAL."

1 (C) WE HAVE NOTED A MIXING OF ANTI-U.S. PROPAGANDA SINCE OUR JUNE 30 DEMARCHES TO DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER DOST ABOUT THE FAKE "SEIZED AMERICAN WEAPONS" PHOTOGRAPHS IN THE AFGHAN MEDIA. PLATIN

1 (C) 147